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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CLASSIFICATION

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Black Sea)

SUBJECT Port of Odessa

E DISTR.

1 August 1952

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2

DATE OF
INFO.PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

1 (Attachment)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The Port of Odessa has a good bottom, composed of sand and mud.
2. Ships which arrive in Odessa must request a pilot by radio at least an hour before arrival. This request is made by radioing the letter T. Usually the pilot meets the ship about a mile from the outer harbor. When the pilot is delayed the ship must lie at anchor at this location. The pilots arrive in motor boats but in bad weather they use tugboats. Once the pilot is aboard, the ship may moor at the quay and, shortly after, the health authorities, the customs officials, and the police come aboard.
3. The means of towing depend on Inflat, which has at its disposal both oil and coal tugs of varied tonnage.
4. At F on Attachment 1 a pontoon crane is moored. It has a capacity of 70 to 75 tons.
5. [redacted] many lighters and tugs [redacted]
6. The piers are constructed of reinforced concrete and stone. Each pier is equipped with three cranes which run on tracks. These cranes have a capacity of three to five tons and are powered electrically from a ground cable.
7. The piers all have railroad tracks. The railroad gauge is wider than standard gauge. Telephone lines were also observed on the piers.
8. At H on Attachment 1 there is a large metal structure, about 60 x 30 m, which [redacted] was a hangar.
9. At D and E on Attachment 1 there were storage tanks for fuel. They were

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-2-

half-buried [redacted] The oil is
pumped from the tankers to these tanks [redacted]

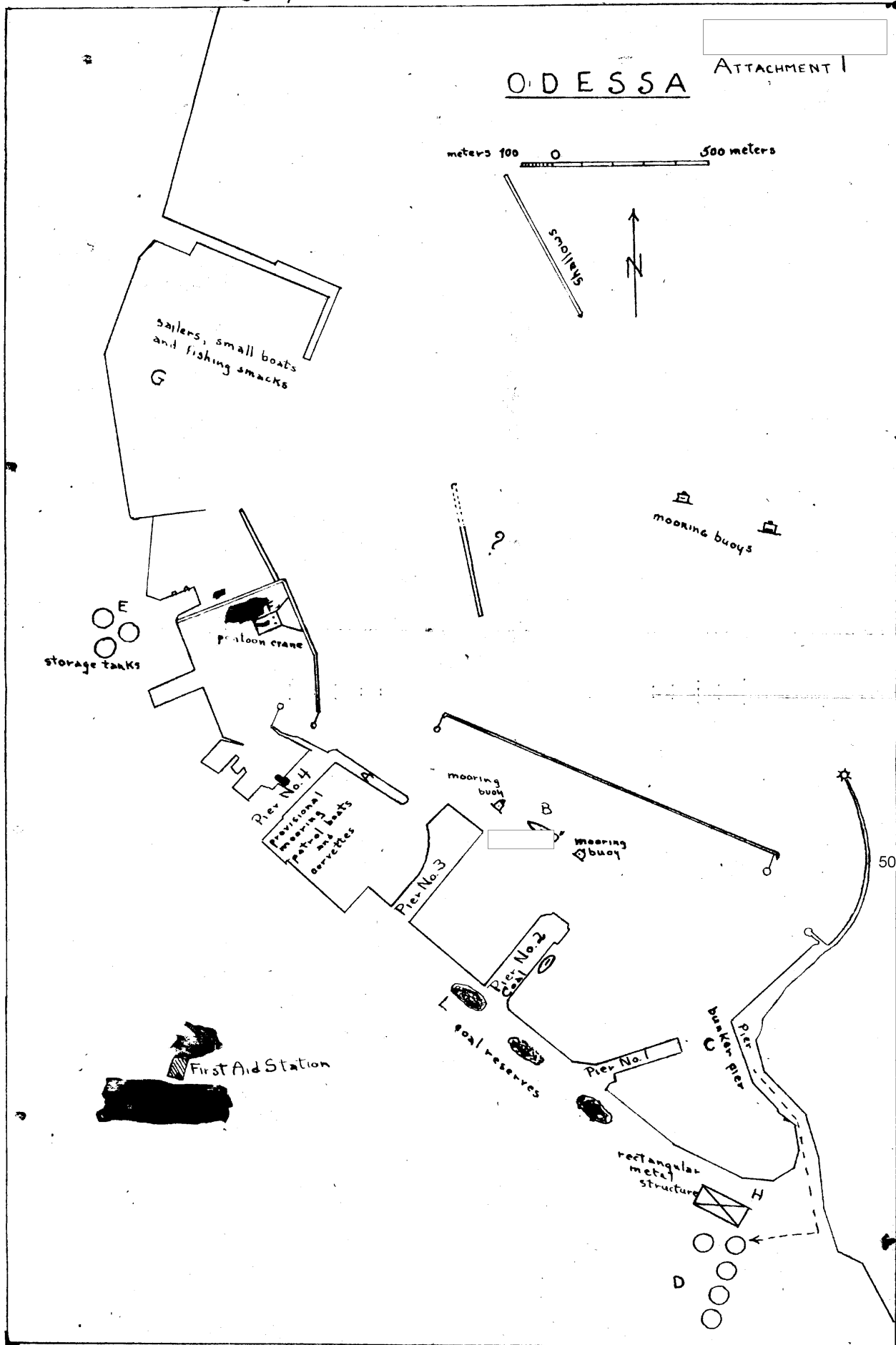
10. The port was poorly illuminated by overhead lights [redacted]
11. Inflat, on behalf of Promeksport in Moscow, takes care of all the transactions of the ships such as loading, unloading, and assistance. All requests must be submitted to the port captain.
12. The port area has both railroad lines and vehicular roads [redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] The roads are of tamped dirt. 50X1-HUM
13. Placed at the gangplanks were sentinels whose duty it was to keep under surveillance all persons who had contacts with those aboard ship. They were armed with rifles and bayonets.
14. At I on Attachment 1 there is a First Aid station. 50X1-HUM
15. At B on Attachment 1 was anchored [redacted] ship [redacted] with many cadets on board. Later it left port following a southeast course. 50X1-HUM
16. At A on Attachment 1 there were moored three corvettes and an ST. The ST had three funnels similar to the old type Stocco.
17. In the latter part of May there were in port about 15 merchantmen of various registry [redacted] and two large passenger ships 50X1-HUM
of about 10,000 tons apiece which flew the Soviet flag.
18. The inspection was conducted by the health authorities, the customs officials, and the police. It was very thorough and lasted from three to four hours. After the inspection the crew were issued passes which permitted them to go ashore.
19. While [redacted] in port [redacted] some MIG's flying both alone and 50X1-HUM
in formations [redacted]
20. In the town the civilians avoid contacts with foreign sailors. [redacted]
[redacted]
21. A few clothing stores were open downtown, but the show windows were almost bare and the few outfits displayed were not very inviting, made of very ordinary material. In order to buy something a ticket is required.
[redacted] 50X1-HUM
24. To all appearances there is no surveillance of the crew once they are ashore. They are free to wander at will through the city and to buy what they wish. Prices are very high (there is a high tax for converting to rubles) and the goods are of inferior quality.

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